

## PRESS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney
Middle District of Florida

## PAUL I. PEREZ UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

400 North Tampa Street Suite 3200 Tampa, Florida 33602 813/274-6000 813/274-6300 (Fax) 300 North Hogan Street, Suite 700 Post Office Box 600 Jacksonville, Florida 32201 904/301-6300 904/301-6310 (Fax) 80 North Hughey Avenue, Room 201 Orlando, Florida 32801 407/648-7500 407/648-7643 (Fax) 2110 First Street, Suite 3-137 Fort Myers, Florida 33901 239/461-2200 239/461-2219 (fax)

**Contact: Steve Cole ♦ Public Affairs Specialist ♦ 813/274-6352** 

## For Immediate Release

December 14, 2006

## MILLION DOLLAR REAL ESTATE FRAUD IN CAPE CORAL

Fort Myers, Florida - United States Attorney Paul I. Perez today announced the arrests of Ronald D. Luczak, Lisa Luczak, Nelson Alex Gonzalo, Patricia Martin, all residents of Cape Coral, and Sandra Mainardi, a resident of New Jersey. The defendants are charged with conspiracy to commit money laundering. The maximum penalties the defendants face, if convicted on all counts, are 20 years' imprisonment and a fine of \$5 million.

According to the charging document, the defendants participated in fraudulent real estate transactions in Cape Coral. They would locate real estate for sale by owner, allegedly inflate the price of the real estate, and obtain 100% financing for that inflated price. They were able to obtain more than \$30 million in loans, which they allegedly used for extravagant trips, jewelry and their own personal use.

A Criminal Complaint is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed a violation of federal criminal laws, and every defendant is presumed innocent until, and

unless, proven guilty.

The case is being investigated by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Internal Revenue Service and will be prosecuted by Chief Assistant United States Attorney Douglas Molloy.